

USAID/Nigeria QUARTERLY REPORT
Kano and Zamfara State Education Account
January-March 2009 Quarterly Progress Report

<i>ACTIVITY SUMMARY</i>
Implementing Partner: Creative Associates International, Inc.
Activity Name: State Education Account in Kano State and Zamfara State of Northern Nigeria
Activity Objective: The objective is to help the Kano State and Zamfara State Ministry of Education to develop a State Education Account while simultaneously building local capacity to replicate this process in other states and potentially nationally.
USAID/Nigeria SO:
Life of Activity (start and end dates): January 15, 2007 - April 30, 2009
Total Estimated Contract/Agreement Amount: \$934,525.00
Obligations to date: \$934,525.00
Current Pipeline Amount (remaining unspent as of 03/31/09): \$168,436.14
Accrued Expenditures this Quarter: \$84,086.10 ¹
Activity Cumulative Accrued Expenditures to Date (03/31/09): \$766,088.86
Estimated Expenditures Next Quarter: \$168,436.14
Report Submitted by: Phyllis Forbes, Technical Director Submission Date: April 8, 2009

¹ Includes estimates for March 2009.

Narrative section

I. Background

Project ABE-BE Kano State Education Account (SEA) is a 28-month Task Order under the ABE-BE IQC, with the goal of providing technical assistance (TA) for the development and institutionalization of the SEA in Kano State and Zamfara State of Northern Nigeria, successfully integrating the SEA into state government operations, and providing hands-on training to a local institution with potential to replicate SEA more broadly throughout Nigeria. It also seeks to conduct a study of the Al-Majiri sector in both Kano and Zamfara.

Cooperation and collaboration with the Kano and Zamfara State Ministries of Education (MOEs) and other major stakeholders are key to the success of this program. By design, Creative's capacity building approach is dependent upon the level of commitment of the Kano and Zamfara MOEs to conducting the SEA and to cooperating with the Implementing Agency (henceforth referred to as the local Technical Assistance Team (TAT)) and external TA providers. The planned agreement between USAID and the Government of Nigeria (GON) lays the foundation for this collaboration, ensuring that all relevant ministries and information sources are accessible to the project.

II. Quarter Progress

- *Zamfara SEA Report:* Following the development of the Zamfara SEA (ZAMSEA) report outline and writing structure in December, the SEA team spent this quarter writing the draft ZAMSEA report which was subsequently shared with the SEA Working Group (SWG), the Permanent Secretary, and the Honorable Commissioner. The Honorable Commissioner requested one week's time to review the report and prepare his comments and suggestions. (Because the Permanent Secretary recently changed, the ZAMSEA Program Coordinator and the Core SWG group also spent some time orienting the new Permanent Secretary to the SEA methodology so that he could effectively review the report.)
- *Launch of the Al-Majiri Sector Studies in Kano and Zamfara (Phase I):* Following issuance of the December 1st USAID contract modification to conduct the Al-Majiri sector studies, major activities this quarter focused on the launch of the Al-Majiri studies in Kano and Zamfara. As a preliminary step, orientation meetings were held with stakeholders from both states. These meetings provided an opportunity to present the project aims, establish the boundaries (e.g., time frame, location, sources of financing) for each study, determine the qualifications and desired characteristics of data collectors, and bring the data collectors on-board. In addition, letters of support for the Al-Majiri sector studies were prepared by USAID and transmitted to the local project team to facilitate collection of sensitive information from Al-Majiri school proprietors and community leaders. Meetings were also held with the State

Advisors on Education to discuss the project and to request their assistance. The State Advisors announced their strong commitment and interest in the project and promised to ensure the success of this exercise.

- *Implementation of the Al-Majiri Sector Study in Kano State (Phase II):* Data collection instruments were finalized in February. Following a successful pilot test in Kano on February 8th and 9th, the instruments were observed to be suitable for the proposed data collection. It was noted that the schools were distributed throughout the entire Local Government Councils and would require extensive transportation resources and time. Training of Kano data collectors took place at the Senior Secondary Schools Management Board Conference Hall on February 10th; twelve data collectors were trained. The Kano data collection exercise targeted and duly reported data from 176 schools, eight local government authorities, and two parastatals. (Based on advice from the SWG, the instruments were not emblazoned with the USAID logo because the SWG members believed that it might compromise the intrinsic independence or neutrality of the data collection.)
- *Implementation of the Al-Majiri Sector Study in Zamfara State (Phase II):* Data collection instruments were completed in February. A successful pilot test of the instruments took place on February 12th and 13th in Zamfara. Some changes were deemed necessary as a result of the pilot test, including for example adjusting for the Hausa dialectical differences in Zamfara. Training of data collectors took place at the ZAMSEA office on Saturday, February 14th. Eleven data collectors were trained. The Zamfara data collection exercise targeted and duly reported data from 164 schools, one local government authority, and one parastatal. (Based on advice from the SWG, the instruments were not emblazoned with the USAID logo because the SWG members believed that it might compromise the intrinsic independence or neutrality of the data collection.)
- *Database Development and Data Entry:* The Al-Majiri Access database was developed this quarter. Data entry and data cleaning were also begun. However, a review of the database and the analysis of results revealed some gaps in data entry and errors in the way data from the school survey had been analyzed and extrapolated from the sample to the population of Almajiri schools. As a result, the team is redoing the analysis as well as data validation to ensure that the pivot tables and matrices are accurately and fully generated and ready for discussion with the SWG by the end of April.
- *Data Validation and Analysis Retreats:* Detailed planning for the Al-Majiri data validation and data analysis retreats in Kano and Zamfara began this quarter. Although the retreats were scheduled to begin in late March, the above-mentioned database issues necessitated a small delay. The retreats are now scheduled to take place over an approximate ten-day period in late April / early May.

- *SEA Evaluation*: Planning for the SEA evaluation for both Kano and Zamfara was also completed this quarter.

III. Problems and Opportunities

As mentioned in the Database Development and Data Entry section, the initial database and the analysis of results revealed some gaps in data entry and errors in the way data from the school survey had been analyzed and extrapolated from the sample to the population of Al-Majiri schools. Instead of a data set in Access or MS Excel format that was ready to be converted into pivot tables to be used for the analyses in the Kano and Zamfara retreats, Creative received raw data in Access and SPSS databases that was not ready to be manipulated. The Al-Majiri data was therefore not ready to be reviewed and the SEA leadership decided that the technical assistance trip that was planned for the end of March should be rescheduled until late April. The team is remedying the above-mentioned problem by redoing the analysis as well as data validation to ensure that the pivot tables and matrices are accurately and fully generated and ready for discussion with the SWG by the end of April.

IV. Activity Changes

n/a

V. Success Stories

n/a

VI. Next Quarter Results and Related Tasks

- Present the ZAMSEA report to all Zamfara State stakeholders. A presentation of the ZAMSEA report will also be provided to the federal MOE and other agencies, international development partners, and USAID.
- Complete Phase II of the Al-Majiri sector study. This includes completing data input into the Al-Majiri database and submitting the preliminary report deliverable to USAID.
- Commence Phase III of the Al-Majiri sector study, namely fixing the database; redoing the analysis and data validation to ensure that the pivot tables and matrices are accurately and fully generated and ready for discussion with the SWGs; holding a data analysis retreat with stakeholders; and preparing the draft of findings deliverable to USAID and other stakeholders for review.
- Conduct the SEA Evaluation in late April / early May to answer key questions and prepare the final SEA project implementation report.

- Conduct close-out operations including: providing a disposition plan and a final inventory of USAID/Nigeria funded equipment to USAID, closing the Zamfara field office, and repatriating vital documents to headquarters.

Objective: Assisted the Kano and Zamfara State Ministries of Education to develop a State Education Account while building local capacity to replicate this process in other states

Result 1

Ministries of Education capacity

Key Indicators

Members of State Working Group (SWGs) identified
 # of SWGs members introduced to SEA
 # of technical trainings received during Phase I
 # of technical trainings received during Phase II
 SWGs collected, validated and analyzed data
 SWGs wrote final report
 SWGs obtained report approval from the Ministry
 SWGs designed a dissemination plan for the report
 SWGs provided advice on contents of network set up for other SEAs in Nigeria

Result 2

Technical Assistance Team capacity

Key Indicators

Commitment from a local institution capable of serving as an Implementing Agency
 # of TAT members introduced to SEA
 # of technical trainings received during Phase I
 # of technical trainings received during Phase II
 # of training sessions delivered to the State Working Groups
 # of training sessions delivered jointly with the SWGs to data collectors and/or sub-groups
 Assistance to SWGs in developing a data collection instrument
 Assistance to SWGs in collecting, validating and analyzing data
 Assistance to SWGs in preparing final report
 Assistance to SWGs in designing a dissemination plan for the final report
 Assistance to SWGs in providing advice on contents of network set up for other SEAs in Nigeria

Result 3

Kano and Zamfara State Education Account

Key Indicators (deliverables)

Data Map
 Data collection instruments
 Private Sector Survey
 Training program for data collectors
 Database and forms
 Procedures Manual
 Framework Document
 Final Report

FY 2009 Second Quarter Report: Kano and Zamfara State Education Account

	FY07 Targets (Actuals)	This year (FY08 & FY09) target	This year actual	This quarter target	This quarter actual	Explanation for variance or why not reported during this quarter	Next quarter target	Life of project targets
Objective: Assisted the Kano and Zamfara State Ministries of Education to develop a State Education Account while building local capacity to replicate this process in other states								
Indicator 1:								
Indicator 2:								
Indicator 3:								
Result 1: Increased local capacity to implement a SEA								
Indicator 1.1: TAT & SWGs trainings								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 1.1.1: Technical Assistance Team trained for Phase I 	1 (5 TAT members)	n/a	n/a					1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 1.1.2: Kano and Zamfara Local Ministry of Education trained for Phase I 	1 (26 Kano members)	1	1 (25 Zamfara members)					2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 1.1.3: Technical Assistance Team trained for Phase II 	1 (5 TAT members)	n/a	n/a					1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output 1.1.4: Kano and Zamfara Local Ministry of Education trained for Phase II 	1(26 Kano members)	1	1 (25 Zamfara members)					2
Result 2: Framework Document Developed								
Indicator 2.1: Development of Framework Document								

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output 2.1.1: Boundaries defined • Output 2.1.2: Data categories identified • Output 2.1.3 Data plan finalized • Output 2.1.4: Framework document completed • Output 2.1.5: Role of key actors defined 	1 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 1					2 2 2 2 2
Result 3: Data Collected								
Indicator 3.1: Data Collection								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output 3.1.1: Data collectors identified • Output 3.1.2: Data collectors trained • Output 3.1.3: Procedures manuals developed • Output 3.1.4: Secondary data sources identified • Output 3.1.5: Database set up 	25 (66 actually trained)	25	57 (includes 25 from Indicator 1.1.)					50
	25 (66 actually trained)	25	57 (includes 25 from Indicator 1.1.)					50
	1	1	1					2
	1	1	1					2
	1	1	1					2
Result 4: Data Analyzed								
Indicator 4.1: Data Analysis								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output 4.1.1: Data reviewed • Output 4.1.2: Survey results entered into database • Output 4.1.3: Analysis completed 	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1					2 2 2

